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[redacted] (b)(3)

ED

11 August 1960

[redacted] (b)(3)

Copy No. C 71

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

DOCUMENT NO. 36
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. X
☐ DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2010
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 9 JUN 1980 REVIEWER: [redacted] (b)(3)

[redacted] (b)(3)

~~TOP SECRET~~

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

Pakistan-USSR: Pakistan's announcement that it welcomes a Soviet proposal to discuss details of oil exploration assistance is symptomatic of Pakistan's desire to enhance its aid from abroad by introducing competition between the US and the bloc. The Soviet proposal, originally made in 1958, was renewed in response to a Pakistani initiative last May. President Ayub probably does not intend to jeopardize Pakistan's alliance with the US, but he presumably hopes to arouse apprehension that Pakistan is moving toward a more "independent" policy. (b)(3) (b)(3) (b)(3) (b)(1) (b)(3)

LATE ITEMS (b)(3)

*Republic of the Congo: Secretary General Hammarskjold is expected to arrive in the Congo on 11 August and to proceed on Friday to Elisabethville where Katanga Premier Tshombé has stated he is prepared to begin negotiations for entry of UN troops

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into Katanga. (b)(1)

Despite his efforts to reconstitute the Force Publique, Lumumba probably has no more than a few hundred troops loyal to himself, however, and no Congolese aircraft with which to airlift them to Katanga. (b)(1)

In Leopoldville, there have been anti-Lumumba disturbances for the second consecutive day. Possibly in reaction to rumors of a coup attempt, Congolese police on 10 August raided the office of the Abako party, which on 8 August passed a motion of no confidence against Lumumba. Several Abako adherents were reportedly wounded when firing broke out, but reports that Lumumba himself was injured in street demonstrations have been denied by an aide. The premier has warned that large numbers of Europeans would shortly be arrested for "plotting against the Congo," a threat which may lead to a new exodus by Belgians, including those in Katanga.

Brussels continues critical of the US for supporting the UN resolution calling for the "immediate" withdrawal of Belgian troops from Katanga and for activity allegedly prejudicial to Belgian interests. Although Foreign Minister Wigny has indicated that all Belgian troops could be evacuated from the Congo by 21 August, Brussels still may hope to avoid a commitment concerning a date for the evacuation of its Congo bases. Public criticism of Prime Minister Eyskens' government has sparked new rumors he may soon resign.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

Laos: The area controlled by the rebellious second parachute battalion and other small units allied with it still is apparently restricted to the Vientiane area. (b)(1)

The provisional executive committee announced in Vientiane by the revolutionary high command contains diverse elements unified mainly by their dislike of the (b)(1)

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